

# The Difference in Brains

- There is *no* scientific evidence that states either sex has more general intelligence, although there are specific differences in the areas where males and females manifest their intelligence.
- Women have nearly ten times the amount of white matter than men, men have 6.5 times the amount of gray matter than women. Gray matter represents information processing centers in the brain. White matter represents the connections between these processing centers.
- 84 percent of gray-matter regions and 86 percent of white-matter regions involved with intellectual performance in women were found in the brain's frontal lobes, compared to 45 percent and zero percent for males.
- The hippocampus, where initial memories are formed, occupies a smaller percent of the male brain than the female brain.
- Male brain is characterized by *systemizing tendencies* and *Mechanistic thinking*. "Systemizing" is the drive to analyze, explore, and construct a system. Mechanistic thinking is figuring things out.
- Female brain is characterized by *empathizing tendencies* or *mentalist thinking*. Empathizing is a drive to identify what someone else is thinking and feeling. Mentalistic thinking is trying to figure people out.
- Mental abilities decline with age more in men than in women. All mental abilities decline with age, but the decline is steeper in men than in women. Furthermore, this effect is independent of sexual orientation.
- Sex differences and cultural variations in mate preferences. Across all participants, the traits ranked most important in a relationship partner are intelligence, humor, honesty, kindness, overall good looks, face attractiveness, values, communication skills and dependability. However, on average, men rank good looks and facial attractiveness more important than women do, whereas women rank honesty, humor, kindness, and dependability more important than men do.
- Associations among birth order, handedness and sexual orientation. The strongest handedness (left- or right-handedness) finding for both sexes is a marked tendency for participants who describe themselves as bisexual also to describe themselves as ambidextrous.
- Sex differences and sexual orientation differences in mental abilities. Across nations, men score higher than women on tests of mental rotation and the ability to judge line angles, whereas women score higher than men on tests of object location memory and word fluency. On average, gay men's visual-spatial abilities differ from those of heterosexual men—shifted in the direction of women's abilities. Similarly, lesbian women's visual-spatial abilities differ from those of heterosexual women—shifted in the direction of men's abilities.

- The link between sex drive and attractions to men and women. For women, high sex drive is associated with increased sexual attraction to both women and men. For men, however, high sex drive is associated with increased attraction to one sex or the other, but not both, depending on their sexual orientation.
- Until eight weeks after conception, all brains are considered female.
- Women tend to use more words in a day than men. The word gap can be anywhere from 1,000 to 10,000 words.